Xavier Day 2006

This is a photo of the banner used as a backdrop to the alter during the Xavier Day Mass celebration. It was painted by members of the Art Faculty in recognition of the 500th Anniversary of the birth of St Francis Xavier.
From the Principal

It’s all about trust

On Monday morning I picked up the Advertiser, I glanced at the headlines and briefly read the world news before turning to the sport section and reading a review of the ‘Showdown’ game. I looked over the player ratings and saw Chad Cornes 9, Brett Ebert 8, Shaun Burgoyne 8 etc and then looked through the Crows list and read Andrew McLeod 6, Scott Thompson 5, Graham Johncock 4 and thought that it was a reasonably fair assessment of how the players performed. Later on the same day, I took our College Leaders, Stephanie and Brendan, to an afternoon tea with the Prime Minister. At that function we listened to Mr Howard give a brief assessment of his government’s performance over the last few years. Then on the drive back to school I listened to Stephanie and Brendan talk about the pressing assessment tasks they were facing. The following evening I attended the Xavier Year 11 Parent Information evening at which Stage 2 SACE assessment arrangements were explained to parents.

It is clear that assessment is a major part of life and certainly integral to school business. However, for assessment to be valid we need to know why we are assessing, how we assess and what is important enough to bother assessing. As a College staff we have spoken about assessment at recent staff meetings, not only in relation to student performance but also about our own personal assessment. You might be interested to know that every member of staff has an annual assessment and in my case the Catholic Education Office conducts the assessment. They discuss with me in advance about what things they should assess and they mention things like: Xavier’s academic results, student absentee details and the financial status of the College. All of these things are relevant but at my most recent interview I suggested that perhaps the most important thing they should also assess is whether the community actually trusts me. It seems to me that if I am not trusted, all of the other issues will inevitably be in a state of decline anyway. For teachers, their fundamental effectiveness is built on their ability to earn the respect and trust of students. I might add that doesn’t mean being soft, in fact it is about teachers developing a rapport with students such that students are able to hear the positives and also accept the not so positive feedback.

If we were to assess the performance of the two characters whose images adorn the wall at the back of the alter we would discover that the secret to the success of both St John Bosco and St Francis Xavier was their ability to earn the trust of the people with whom they worked.

Xavier Day is about nurturing friendships and building our school community spirit. Friendships are built on a mutual trust between people, so on this Xavier Day I would like each one here to do a personal assessment on how good you are as a friend and for you all to strive to be better friends.

Mr Lynn Martin, Principal
On Wednesday 9th of August, four Xavier Students went to Woodhouse Activity Centre for the Cosmic Cluster Camp with twelve other South Australian Schools.

When everyone arrived, we joined in some team activity games. Each student chose one core, on which they did five lessons over the three days we were there. Some of these core choices were art drawing, art printing, drama, maths, media and problem solving.

After arriving we also got to choose one of these activities for an elective. On the second day we went for a five minute walk to get to Challenge Hill, where we pushed ourselves to the limit, facing our fears and testing our strengths.

Cosmic Cluster Camp was a great experience with lots of amazing food.

Brooke Trudgen and Jamie-Lee Tulk (pictured above right with Brodie from Unity College)

On Wednesday 9th of August, four year 8’s went on a camp to the Woodhouse Scout Site.

My favourite activity was going to Challenge Hill. It was fun. The food tasted good and I thoroughly enjoyed being able to meet new people from other schools. The camp was fun and I learnt a lot.

Scott Davie
(Left: dressed for success during Video Core)

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Scott Davie
(Left: dressed for success during Video Core)

For Cosmic Cluster Camp we went to the Woodhouse Activity Centre.

I was in the maths core where we did puzzles, maths problems and used the graphic calculators. For my elective I did lino printing. There were about 80 students at the camp and it was a great three days.

Clare Kibble
(Right: enjoying breakfast)

Afternoon tea with the Prime Minister

Last Monday College Captains, Stephanie Moore and Brendan Moore attended afternoon tea with the Prime Minister, the Honourable John Howard.

They were fortunate to personally meet with the Prime Minister and both represented the College extremely well.
**Weekly Celebration of the Eucharist**

Every Tuesday morning at 8.10am Fr. Germano Baiguini will say a morning Mass in the Xavier Chapel. Students and staff are invited to join the thousands of Catholics around the world who begin their day by spending some time in prayer and celebrating the Eucharist together before they go off to school, work.... etc.

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**Youth Group**

For people in years 6 - 9 at school
We will meet after 10am Mass on Sunday 24th September.
Come along and join in cooking and games.
Cost $4, lunch included.

See you there!

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**The Feast of Maria Santissima di Crochi**

**RELIGIOUS PROGRAM**

Saturday 9th September
Celebrated in Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church
(Penfield Road, Virginia)

- 7:30am Bilingual mass for children & young people
- Blessing & distribution of medals

**FEAST DAY**

Sunday 10th September
([The feast is held on the Maria Santissima di Crochi grounds, corner of Susan Street and Thomas Street, Virginia])

- 9:30am Parish Mass
- 10:30am Procession (children lead the procession & are very welcome to attend. The procession leaves from the Virginia Parish Church)
- 11:30am Solemn Concelebrated Mass
- 12:30pm Lunch, BBQ, Pasta, Zeppole, Reel, Refreshments, Games & Sideshows
- 1:30pm Giuseppe Verdi Band
- 2pm Musical Entertainment by "The Wiseman Trio"
- 4pm Wheel of Fortune
- 5pm Party of Five Band
- 8pm Close

ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND

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**The Patriarchs**

An epic performance of Genesis 11 - 36
by Noël Christian

Hewett Community Church of Christ
Sunday 17 September  2PM
An offering will be taken for the performer

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**COME ‘N’ TRY GOLF**

GAWLER GOLF CLUB at Sandy Creek
are holding a Come ‘N’ Try Day for persons who want to learn the basics of golf.

Join us for Morning Tea @ 10.00 a.m in the Clubrooms and then experience some coaching by our great Professional, Cameron Scott. Loan clubs available if required. Book in by contacting Andrew on 8524 4231.

Metal Spikes are not permitted.

Make Tuesday 5th September 2006 a date in your diary
All beginners and tryers are welcome.
Organised by the Ladies Committee of Gawler Golf Club